

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1, 7-11, 15, 18, 23, 24 and 28. With this amendment, Applicant cancelled claims 4-6, 14, 20-22, 25-27 and 29 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter; therefore, claims 1-3, 7-13, 15-19, 23, 24 and 28 are currently pending in this application.

The Examiner indicates that claims 6-10 and 13 contain allowable matter and would be allowed if rewritten into independent form including the limitations of the claims from which they depend.

With this Amendment, Applicant rewrites claim 1 to include the limitations of claims 4-6. Claims 4-6 are cancelled. Each of claims 7-11 is amended so as not to depend solely or alternatively on a canceled claim.

Each of the remaining independent claims, namely, claims 15, 18, 23, and 28, is amended to include the subject matter of claims 4-6 in substantially the same manner as claim 1. Each of claims 23 and 24 is also amended to clearly overcome the statutory subject matter rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that all remaining claims are allowable and that this application is otherwise in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any points remain in issue, he is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 10, 2010